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BILL CLINTON.

EXTRAORDINARY COMMUNITY ACTIVISM

HON. CHARLES E. SCHUMER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 25, 1995

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of an extraordinary story of community activism in Windsor Terrace, Brooklyn, a neighborhood guided by the strength of its parish. Local neighborhood bartender, Jimmy Houlihan, in a casual conversation with Rev. Dennis Farrell of Holy Name Church, learned of the ailing physical condition of the church's grade school. Anyone from Windsor Terrace knows that Farrell's Saloon, the bar where "Houlie" works, is also a solid neighborhood landmark well known for its involvement in community events.

As one who understands the importance of helping his fellow neighbors, Houlie immediately began soliciting others to paint the schools' 33 classrooms. He called upon Charlie Kawas, a firefighter for the New York Fire Department and a graduate of Holy Name School, to gather support among his friends and neighbors for this altruistic undertaking. Since almost everyone in the community had either gone to Holy Name or had children who currently attended, it was not long before their volunteer list reached 300 enlistees.

Through the efforts of Kawas, the entire community of Windsor Terrace became actively involved in the preparation and planning of this painting project. Local merchants also devoted resources to the painting crew, providing coffee, bagels, food, and beer. Farrell's donated money for the party afterward and the parish donated the paint.

The people of Windsor Terrace prove once again that community activism still exists in America. Men and women gave up a day off, donated money and resources and joined hands with their fellow parishioners to improve the appearance of their local school. This overwhelming tale serves as an inspiration to every community in every city in America. I commend these courageous and thoughtful citizens for exhibiting the true spirit of community and public service.

TRIBUTE TO SAMUEL BRAEN

HON. WILLIAM J. MARTINI

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 25, 1995

Mr. MARTINI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a very special resident of the Eighth Congressional District. Tonight in my congressional district there will be a ceremony honoring Mr. Samuel Braen, the 1995 Man of the Year for the Boys and Girls Club of Paterson. Mr. Braen was selected for this honor in recognition of his long history of involvement in civic and business interests throughout northern New Jersey and particularly for his philanthropic activities especially those focusing on youth. Mr. Braen joins a select group of 29

distinguished men and women who have helped raise hundreds of thousands of dollars for the Boys and Girls Clubs in Paterson through the annual man of the year honor.

Samuel Braen is the chairman/CEO of Stone Industries, Inc., located in Haledon, NJ. The company is in the crushed stone and aggregate business. They are major suppliers of stone, aggregate, and asphalt in the northern New Jersey and southern New York area. Mr. Braen represents the fourth generation of his family in this industry.

Mr. Braen has lived in Wyckoff, NJ, all of his life. He was educated in the local schools and after graduation Ramapo High School he attended Shelton College before his involvement in the family business. He has many years experience in the road construction, aggregate and road building industry. Many major highways, bridges, schools, and hospitals were built in Bergen and Passaic Counties by the Braen family.

Mr. Braen is married to the former Janet Knapp and they have six children and two grandchildren. Sam spends most of his week-ends involved with his children in sports activities such as football, basketball, tennis, and golf.

Mr. Braen is very involved in many civic, business, and trade organizations. Some of these organizations include the board of trustees of the Wyckoff Library, advisory board of the Atlantic stewardship bank, the past president of the Wyckoff Rotary Club, executive board of the Passaic Valley Council of the Boy Scouts, Society of the Valley Hospital, life member of the Wyckoff Fire Department and Exempt Association, the New Jersey Asphalt Paving Association, and the board of trustees of Steven's Institute of Technology.

Mr. Speaker, I know you will join me in congratulating Sam Braen for the contributions he has made to his community.

TRIBUTE TO ROLAND JONATHAN LEWIS

HON. JOSÉ E. SERRANO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 25, 1995

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Roland Jonathan Lewis, who was honored for his outstanding contribution to the community on October 6 at the 1995 St. Benedict the Moor Neighborhood Center's Dinner Dance, in the South Bronx.

Mr. Lewis is one of eight individuals who were recognized for their remarkable success in helping rehabilitate individuals who had been struggling with substance abuse. The rehabilitation program is being implemented at St. Benedict the Moor Neighborhood Center.

Mr. Lewis earned his bachelor of arts degree from Columbia University, and both a master's in regional planning and a juris doctor's from Rutgers University.

Lewis is currently a partner at Dellapa & Lewis where he had been successful in facilitating the development of affordable housing projects. He is married to Faye Lewis and has two children.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleague to join me in honoring Roland Lewis for the generous service rendered for the benefit of our community.

FUNDING FOR JUDICIAL GENDER, RACIAL FAIRNESS TASK FORCES

HON. RICHARD A. GEPHARDT

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 25, 1995

Mr. GEPHARDT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of funding for judicial gender and racial fairness task forces.

The Violence Against Women Act of 1994 authorized research and education programs to enhance judicial knowledge and awareness of domestic violence and sexual assault. The act authorized \$700,000 for Federal court task forces studying gender and racial bias in the Federal judicial system. The Commerce, Justice, State, and judiciary appropriations bill as passed by the House included the full \$700,000 authorized by VAWA; the Senate version did not fund these important task forces. I would like my colleagues on the conference committee to stand firm for the House position and also that you fully fund the VAWA.

It is essential that funding for these important task forces be retained. To date, at least 40 reports on gender bias and racial bias have been issued by Federal and State task forces on gender and racial fairness. Many of the improvements suggested by these reports have been implemented.

Several years ago the court system in my home State of Missouri conducted a gender bias study which was received favorably by the legal community and the State judiciary. This study revealed that gender bias is a very real problem in the courts. It identified several key problems which ranged from the unequal treatment of women and minority witnesses, to statements of outright bias from judicial officers directed both to lawyers and to litigants.

To preserve the integrity of our judicial system, it is essential that bias be identified and eliminated. Gender and racial bias task forces are part of a longstanding effort on the part of Federal courts to look closely at their own performance in an effort to improve the administration of justice. Continued funding for these task forces is essential if the judicial process is to be fair to all, regardless of gender or race.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage my colleagues to support funding of these task forces for their continued efforts to ensure that all persons are treated equally in our Federal courts.

IN HONOR OF CHIEF DAVID G. WALCHAK

HON. CHARLES F. BASS

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 25, 1995

Mr. BASS. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure today to rise to pay tribute to David G. Walchak, Chief of Police for the city of Concord, NH, as he becomes the 83d President of the International Association of Chiefs of Police.

Chief Walchak has a long and distinguished record of service as a law enforcement officer, going back to his days as a patrolman for the LaCrosse, WI, Police Department in the 1960's. David Walchak also excelled in law